

AGFA 266-KFM  
MU 02016-US  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : THOMAS SCHUHRKE and MARTIN ROTHER  
Serial No. : TO BE ASSIGNED  
Filed : HEREWITH  
For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD FOR AUTOMATED  
CONTRAST MODIFICATION OF DIGITAL IMAGE  
DATA

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September 22, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56 and §1.97(b), the applicants wish to call the attention of the Examiner to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of these references are submitted herewith.

German Patent Application No. DE 36 29 409 A12

German Patent No. DE 197 03 063 C2

German Patent Application No. DE 100 04 631 A1

The aforementioned reference was cited in the "Background of the Invention" section of the present application. Accordingly, no further discussion is believed to be necessary.

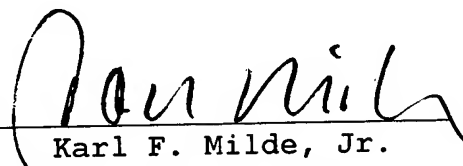
European Patent Application No. 0 849 940

European Patent Application No. 0 377 386

The aforementioned references were cited in the European Search Report of applicants' corresponding European Application No. 02021176.9, a copy of which is also enclosed.

Applicant respectfully requests that this prior art be considered during the examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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**Complete if Known**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Application Number	
Filing Date	September 22, 2003
First Named Inventor	THOMAS SCHUHRKE
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	AGFA 266-KFM

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
		DE 3629409A1	03-03-1988	FUCHSBERGER ETA	
		DE 19703063C2	08-06-1998	MAENDL ET AL	
		DE 10004631A1	08-09-2001	FERSICH ET AL	
		EP 0849940A2	06-24-1998	SHIOHARA	
		EP 0377386A2	07-11-1990	LEE ET AL	

Examiner  
Signature

Date	
Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

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